

Survey of Current Events

TWO SOUTHERN MONARCHS.

In addition to its \$900,000,000 cotton crop it is proposed that the South shall come to the front in the production of corn. In 1890 the South produced only one-fifth of the corn crop of the United States; in 1910 it produced one-third; in ten years more it should produce forty-four per cent. The New York Commercial says: "The newspapers of the South can do more toward making their section the great agricultural and financial centre of the country than any other one agency in operation there—and most of them are engaged in the good work now. But they could do much more and with telling effect. The fact that less than thirty per cent. of the land of the South is under cultivation, while in the East, North and West the areas that can be cultivated are much more generally utilized—in fact very largely occupied already—has in it the making of myriads of stories and sermonettes on grain-growing. The South ought not to buy outside of her own borders one pound of either corn, wheat or hog-products."

FEDERAL SUPERVISION.

The Senate has adopted the House bill providing for submitting to the vote of the States a constitutional amendment requiring the election of United States Senators by popular vote. The Senate added an amendment providing for federal supervision of such elections. Senator Fletcher, of Florida, opposed the bill as amended and said: "I am in favor of the election of Senators by popular vote. The people have a right to say who shall serve them in the United States Senate. I voted against the final adoption of the resolution, which was a substitute for the original adopted on a tie vote, and known as the Bristow amendment, and I hope, if the House accepts this amendment, that the Legislatures will reject it. The Bristow amendment has the effect of giving the Federal government authority to say 'when, where and in what manner' the elections for Senators shall be held. This is the objectionable feature. It simply means that the States shall surrender the control of their political affairs to the government of the United States, and I am unalterably opposed to it. I believe we are able to take care of our own elections in the South, without the aid or supervision of Federal authorities."

THE CLEVELAND TOWER.

The friends of ex-President Cleveland some time ago launched a movement to endow a suitable memorial to his public career. A fund of one hundred thousand dollars was proposed to be secured by popular subscription and to be used in the erection of a tower on the grounds of Princeton University. Former United States Senator Dryden in charge of the enterprise, announces to the trustees of the memorial fund that it has been oversubscribed by \$7,000, subscriptions having come from every quarter of the United States and from Americans abroad. The amounts ranged from 5 cents to \$5,000. The tower will be attached to the graduate building, now in course of construction at Princeton University.

CAN WE SAVE OUR BIRDS?

Harriet Quimby in Leslie's, says: "Ten years from now America will be an absolutely birdless land, unless some action is immediately taken to stop the present destruction of song and game

birds," said William T. Hornaday, president of the New York Zoological Park and author of "The American Natural History." "I do not like to think that our grand-children will be obliged to visit a public aviary if they would study bird life, as they are now obliged to visit the zoo if they would see America's representative animal, the buffalo; but I am convinced that this will be necessary unless the people of America arouse themselves to immediate and vigorous protest. The subject of bird protection is far more serious than the public at large appreciates. Because some of us see a few robins and larks in our own city suburbs or in the country, we are slow to understand that these cheerful little feathered creatures are being slaughtered for food in many other city suburbs and country places."

A WESTERN WELCOME.

Postal savings depositories in the Far West are being patronized more freely than those in other parts of the country, announced Postmaster Hitchcock. Of postal savings banks opened May 1, Bisbee, Arizona, and Tonopah, Nevada, led in the amount of deposits the first month, with \$11,770 and \$10,311, respectively. The first ninety-three of these offices established received \$126,801 the first month, and on May 31 had on deposit an aggregate of \$400,000. There will be in operation July 13 a total of 650 postal savings offices, 100 additional offices having just been named, fifty on July 10, and fifty July 13. Among these are: Lakeland and Gainesville, Fla.; Albany, Ga.; Oxford, N. C.; Aiken, S. C.; Eufaula, Ala.; Newport, Ark.; Greenwood, Miss.; Plaquemine and Houma, La., and New Braunfels, Tex.

BOND DISTRIBUTION.

The \$50,000,000 Panama Canal bonds will be widely distributed rather than being appropriated by trust corporations. Although bids have not been opened the treasury department announces that more than 900 sealed proposals have been received at the Treasury Department. They came from all sections of the country, and the loans seems to be well understood by the public. Treasury officials feel that as the new bonds are exempt by law from all government, State, municipal or local taxation, they have a high investment value, in comparison with State, municipal, railroad or industrial securities.

THE EARTH QUAKES.

The most violent earth shocks ever recorded on the Seismograph at Georgetown University occurred at 6 A. M., June 7th. The attendants thought the disturbance to be five or six thousand miles distant. The center of disturbance proved to be Mexico City where sixty-three persons were killed, seventy-five were wounded and property valued at \$50,000 was destroyed. The convulsion injected a note of tragedy into what was to have been a day of pure rejoicing over the arrival of Francisco I. Madero, Jr.

MADERO'S POLICIES.

Sounding a note of political freedom for all the countries of North and South America, Francisco I. Madero, Jr., was welcomed with wild acclaim to the capital of Mexico as the hero of the successful revolution that threw off the old style, despotic rule of the Diaz regime. He expressed the hope that the Mexican revolution would cause the people of Central and South

American countries to seek political freedom. "When a people fights for liberty and conquers, the triumph is well received in neighboring countries," he said. "The spirit of liberty will not be satisfied and we all will really not be happy until in the whole American continent the reign of democracy is complete." This sentiment was foremost in the speech of Senor Madero to thousands of people, including many Latin-Americans, who serenaded him in front of his home as a climax to his vociferous welcome.

TO EXTERMINATE MONOPOLIES.

The Governor of the State of Chihuahua, Mexico, one of the richest timber and mineral States of the republic, announces the cancellation of all monopolistic concessions hitherto existing. Many millions of American investments will be affected. Other holdings are controlled by British and German investors. Governor Gonzales says: "For years Mexico has been exploited by foreigners, until the great body of the people have nothing. We were on the verge of becoming a nation of paupers. Now all special privileges shall stop if we can launch it. We propose to maintain the friendliest relations with Americans, and we shall invite all foreign capital to come in, but there will be no more selling out of the country by piecemeal. We will invite competition, not monopoly. If American capital wishes to come here it must be prepared to compete with Mexican capital. No exclusive privileges will be given foreigners. Undoubtedly foreigners, including Americans, who profited so greatly under the Diaz system, will be hard hit by the new era, but the determination to upbuild Mexico and to improve the conditions of her poverty-stricken people, I am sure, will receive the hearty support of the great body of Americans."

A SPECTACULAR CORONATION.

The completion of the preparations for the coronation of King George V. makes it increasingly evident that the celebration will be on a far greater scale of magnificence than the coronation of King Edward. It is said that never before have the streets of London been so transfigured for any great public ceremony or has there been such an enormous program to do honor to a sovereign. The scene of street decoration and illumination is of unprecedented lavishness. A whole army of carpenters, electricians and decorators is working with feverish energy from early morning until late at night to complete their labors. Nearly 60,000 home and colonial troops are now quartered in the parks, giving Western London the appearance of a huge armed camp.

TO ITALY'S WASHINGTON.

A magnificent monument was recently unveiled in memory of King Victor Emmanuel II, in the city of Rome. Nearly one million persons witnessed the elaborate and impressive ceremonies. Interest was added to the occasion by reason of the celebration of the granting of the constitution by King Charles Albert in 1848, the same constitution which still rules United Italy. King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Helena, the Queen Mother Margherita, who appeared for the first time at an official function since the death of King Humbert; Dowager Queen Maria Pia of Portugal, the surviving daughter of King Victor, and other members of the royal house were

present. Not only the people of Rome, but thousands from the provinces joined in making the event one of national importance. The Mayors of the various towns and cities throughout the kingdom, who were in attendance, numbered 8,000. The monument is the most colossal structure of the kind in the world. It occupies the left section of the Capitoline Hill and opens into the very heart of Rome. The statue is forty feet high and weighs fifty tons. It was cast in eighteen pieces, which occupied two and one-half years. When the work was finished a banquet for twenty persons was served in the body of the horse. The monument is composed of a great portico in white marble with sixteen immense columns surrounded by a frieze, and at the end quadrigae in bronze.

THE REPUBLIC OF PORTUGAL.

The Portuguese provisional cabinet has considered the question of mobilizing the army preparatory to formally proclaiming Portugal a republic. It was decided to reinforce the troops on the frontier and in the province of Algrave in case of necessity. An official account of the meeting of the ministers sets forth that the discussion of the mobilization had to do merely with the plan for the reorganization of the army. An official decree convoked the constituent assembly on June 19, when the Deputies whose seats have not been contested proclaimed the republic of Portugal. On the following day the provisional government resigned, but it is probable that its officers will be empowered to act until the new government has been regularly established.

THE GREAT GERMAN MONOPOLY.

Germany has an annual output of over 6,600,000 tons of potash salts. Her exports of this valuable mineral fertilizer already amount in value to \$35,000,000 annually, and by the opening of some forty more projected mines the output may attain an increase of 100 per cent. within the next decade. The most remarkable feature of the potash industry is that at present Germany holds a world monopoly of this precious soil-rejuvenating product, and it is shown that her mines will continue to yield wealth for hundreds of years to come, probably long after the exhaustion of her coal mines. Thus her potash mines are coming to be regarded as the unparalleled national treasure of the German economic world. Many kinds of potash salts are imported into the United States from Germany. These salts are used for many and diverse purposes—in gold mining, glass making, soap making, bleaching, dyeing, photography, medicine, in making explosives, in fertilizers, and in many other ways. The value of the imports of potash in the fiscal year 1910 was more than \$11,000,000 and the imports have been increasing at a rapid rate from year to year.

CANAL DOCKS.

The Panama Canal Commission has just approved plans for a splendid system of docks for the Atlantic entrance of the canal, which will cost \$7,811,666. The docks, five in number, will be built of reinforced concrete, and will accommodate ten ships 1,000 feet long, or twenty vessels of the size which now ply between New York and Colon. Cristobal Point, adjacent to Colon, will be the location.

No one is living with anything less than unreserved devotion to Jesus Christ, is satisfied

WANTED—A Southern Man, pastor of a strong church, in the North, would like to supply a vacant church during July, August or September, with view to a call if desired. Address: MINISTER, Care Presbyterian of the South.